

## MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF AUSTIN, TEXAS

Special Meeting

March 7, 1946  
3:00 PM

Council Chamber, City Hall

The special meeting of the City Council was called to order with Mayor Tom Miller presiding.

## Roll Call:

Present: Councilman Bartholomew, Mayor Miller, and  
Councilman Wolf  
Absent: Councilmen Alford and Gillis

Present also: Mr. Guiton Morgan, City Manager; Mr. Trueman O'Quinn, City Attorney; Mr. J. E. Motheral, City Engineer; Mr. J. E. Eckert, Building Inspector; Mr. G. G. Levander and Mr. Otis Vaughn, Sewer Division; Dr. Ben Primer, City Health Officer; Mr. Herbert Hargis, Health Department; Judge Williams, Assistant City Attorney.

The Mayor called the meeting to order about 2:45 P.M., and asked Mr. Eckert to explain why the Plumbing Ordinance had been rewritten. Mr. Eckert stated the constitutionality of the present ordinance had been attacked in Court, and it had become necessary to rewrite the ordinance taking out the parts that might be unconstitutional.

A long detailed discussion was held, and different suggestions were offered changing the wording. Mr. Arthur Bagby suggested incorporating Section 82 of the ordinance into Section 3 as a matter of clarification. Mr. Apperson of the Texas Public Service favored setting up two different ordinances; one for the gas fitters and one for the plumbers, and having two separate Boards of Examiners.

Judge Williams called attention to the fact that the Statutes of Texas did not provide for bond of Master Plumbers, and the Supreme Court has held that the Council may not pass an ordinance requiring a Master Plumber to enter into a bond, but that the gas fitters may be required to take out bond, and it was brought out the City would have to be more careful in that case about the work of the Master Plumbers being done correctly as a protection to the citizens.

The Mayor asked the question, under the present ordinance if anyone felt they would not get a square deal under the Board, and if the Board, being Master Plumbers might discriminate against the gas fitters? It was stated that under the present Board, they did not feel that way; but in future Boards

there was a probability of unfairness.

Mr. Lower suggested a committee be set up to work out all the minor difficulties and work with the Plumbing Inspector of the City, and have the changes ready to bring back to the Council at a future date. The Mayor stated he would not appoint this committee, but that it would be all right for them to work out their own committee, and work out these changes, present them in writing before the Council. He said he wanted a representative from the retail appliance dealers from the Gas Company, from the Master Plumbers, and also from the Journeymen plumbers. The Committee appointed from the floor was as follows:

Retail Appliance Dealers	- Mr. Ray Clark
Texas Public Service	- Mr. Apperson
Master Plumbers	- Mr. Lanier
Journeymen Plumbers	- Mr. Flynn

This Committee is to work with Mr. Eckert, Mr. Vaughn, and the City Attorney and revise the Plumbing Ordinance, and a public meeting was set for February 21st at 3:00 P.M. The Mayor announced that if anyone was not pleased with the ordinance as this Committee submitted, that the Council would hear them.

There being no further business, the meeting recessed at 4:30 P.M.

APPROVED,

*Tom Miller*  
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Mayor

ATTEST:

*Elin Woodsley*  
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Deputy City Clerk